

shall, therefore, vote in favor of the motion to lay the order on the table.

The call of the roll having been completed,

The result of the vote was announced as follows:

Affirmative—Messrs. Morgan, Ricaud, Lee, Chambers, of Kent, Mitchell, Wells, Weems, Dalrymple, Bond, Howard, Buchanan, James U. Dennis, Crisfield, Dashiell, Williams, Hicks, Hodson, Goldsborough, Eccleston, Spencer, Wright, Dirickson, Hearn, Jacobs, Sappington, Brent, of Balt. city, Schley, Brewer, Anderson and Smith—30.

Negative—Messrs. Chapman, Pres't, Blakiston, Dent, Sellman, Bell, Ridgely, Dickinson, Colston, Chambers, of Cecil, Miller, McLane, McMaster, Gaither, Biser, Annan, Stephenson, Magraw, Nelson, Carter, Thawley, Stewart, of Caroline, Gwinn, Stewart, of Balt. city, Sherwood, of Balt. city, Ware, Fiery, John Newcomer, Harbine, Michael Newcomer, Weber, Slicer, Fitzpatrick, Parke, Shower, Cockey and Brown—36.

So the Convention determined that the order should not be laid on the table,

The question then again recurred on the amendment of Mr. Buchanan.

Mr. HICKS. I should very much like to offer a substitute for the resolution, if it is in order for me to do so.

The PRESIDENT said: The chair would decide the point when the substitute had been read.

The substitute was then read as follows:

Ordered, that when this Convention adjourn, it stand adjourned to eight o'clock to-morrow, (Thursday,) and that eight o'clock be the hour of meeting until otherwise ordered; take a recess at two o'clock until four o'clock, P. M.

The PRESIDENT ruled the substitute to be in order.

Mr. BRENT, of Balt. city, (to the chair.) Will it be in order to offer an amendment to the amendment of the gentleman from Baltimore county, (Mr. Buchanan.)

The PRESIDENT. The chair does not think that the amendment of the gentleman from Baltimore county, (Mr. Buchanan,) is exactly relevant to the proposition before the Convention.

Mr. BUCHANAN. I beg pardon of the chair, but I thought my amendment had been disposed of by amendment some time ago. I consider gentlemen, negatives and affirmatives, as pledged to come here and stay all the time.

Mr. JOHN NEWCOMER, (to the chair.) Will an amendment to the substitute of the gentleman from Dorchester, (Mr. Hicks,) be in order.

The PRESIDENT. It will be in order.

Mr. JOHN NEWCOMER. I move to amend the substitute, by inserting from eight until two, and then taking a recess until four o'clock.

Mr. BRENT, of Balt. city, (to the chair.) Is it in order to make any remarks?

The PRESIDENT. It is.

Mr. BRENT. Well, sir, I only desire to say that I have always voted in favor of the evening sessions. We have given them a trial. They have failed to accomplish any good result, and I

shall, therefore vote against them. I believe that if we meet here at nine o'clock, sit till three, and labor between these hours with a *bona fide* intention to dispatch the business before us, we can do more work, and do it better, than by meeting again in the evening, and sitting until twelve o'clock. We had an evening session on Monday, and what was the result? Five hours of the session of yesterday were taken up in *undoing* the work of the previous afternoon; yes, sir, in *undoing* it. We had another afternoon session some time ago. We adjourned at two, and lost two hours of the working portion of the day; came here in the evening, and consumed the whole of the session in fruitless motions to adjourn, for calls of the Convention, and for yeas and nays. From the experience of these two instances—which constitute all the experience we have had—I set my face against evening sessions, and am prepared to take the consequences of voting steadfastly against them. If we go ahead steadily, we can, I think, get through with our labors in a reasonable time.

Gentlemen near me say that we have been engaged in motions to reconsider during the whole session. There was much truth in this; but we have not always undone what we had previously done, as was the case on the occasions to which I have referred. On these occasions, as I have said, the Convention actually undid what it had previously done.

Mr. BISER, (to the chair.) Is a motion to amend in order? If so, I move an amendment providing that the Convention shall sit until twelve o'clock at night. [Laughter.]

The PRESIDENT. The motion will not be in order. There are already two amendments pending.

Mr. WRIGHT. I have had some experience in this matter of night sessions. I have often served in them. I am altogether opposed to them. I never knew any result to follow that was sufficient to pay the expense of candle-light.

Mr. BLAKISTON thought the Convention was as competent to transact business in an afternoon as any other part of the day, and that they could do even more business than in the previous hours of the day, because they had the experience of the morning to aid them in their labors. It had been said that members would not be in a condition to do business in an afternoon, (laughter,) but that was an entire mistake, for they had come here on several occasions fully able and qualified, as much so as in a morning, to discharge their duties. There were but four or five working days remaining to the Convention before the day of final adjournment, and as he understood—having been absent a few days—that scarcely a single proposition, except that which related to the executive department of the Government, had been finally disposed of, it was certainly very important that gentlemen should forego their afternoon walks in order to complete the work which they had begun. The time would come when it would be utterly impossible to keep men in their seats, as